

OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon
Agricultural
Statistics
Service

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Weather: Hot and dry temperatures continued last week. Statewide, an estimated 7 days were suitable for fieldwork. Low temperatures ranged from the upper 30's in the northeast to the mid-50's in the southwest part of the State. High temperatures were in the 60's and 70's on the coast and in the upper 90's and low 100's across the rest of the State. Very little precipitation was reported last week. Dangerous fire conditions exist in many areas.

Field Crops: Continued warm and dry weather pushed harvest progress. As of August 7, 71 percent of the winter wheat and 61 percent of the spring wheat had been harvested. This compares to the five-year average of 69 percent and 48 percent, respectively. An estimated 77 percent of the barley crop has been harvested, also ahead of average. Grass seed producers were busy harvesting their crops last week. Many producers, especially in the western part of the State, have reported reduced yields due to vole damage.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Hot dry weather continued to deteriorate pasture conditions across the State. Extremely warm temperatures and dry conditions have shortened late summer grazing areas. Producers were beginning to provide supplemental feeding in some areas. Most livestock were reported in good condition although some were starting to stress from the heat.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Summer maintenance continues for the nursery industry. Irrigating new plantings and containers are some of the things on going. Also, nurseries were rotating large containers, machine digging and balling large trees.

Vegetables: Irrigation was in full swing for vegetable crops due to the hot, dry weather last week. Sweet corn, snap beans, cucumbers, tomatoes, zucchini, and other summer squash were harvested across the State. For the first time in 17 years, corn smut was found in one field in Lane County. Garlic tops were being flamed and or flailed. Garlic harvest will begin later this week. Sixty percent of the potato crop in Klamath County was flowering and one percent turned.

Fruits and Nuts: Northern Willamette Valley raspberry harvest was virtually complete. Marionberry and blueberry harvest was winding down. Evergreen blackberries were being picked, as were peaches. Strawberry field renovation continued with hopes of a better season next year. Filberts and walnuts continued to fill. Growers applied controls for the walnut husk fly and filbert worm. Southern Willamette Valley peaches continued to look good. Blueberry harvest was coming to an end; low yielding raspberries and blackberries continued to be picked. There were reports of insects and diseases on a small apple crop. Routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Growers in the lower valley prepared orchards for summer pear harvest. Stone fruit harvest continued in Wasco County where pears starting taking on a yellow color. Southern Oregon pears were showing good growth, but continue to need water. Peaches, plums and wild blackberries were picked. Blueberry and raspberry harvest was nearing completion.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/07/05

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	29	45	25	1
Subsoil	25	40	35	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/07/05

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat harvested	71	55	62	69
Barley harvested	77	56	49	55
Spring wheat harvested	61	45	45	48
Days suitable for fieldwork	7.0	7.0	6.3	6.6

Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/07/05

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	1	13	25	48	13
Spring wheat	23	29	19	22	7
Barley	5	12	18	40	25
Range and pasture	7	13	41	34	5

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Fields being flailed and burned as weather permits. Huge meadow mouse and vole problems this year. A nice crop of peaches continuing. Small crop of apples so far. Lots of insect and disease issues. Blueberries nearing end of season except for late varieties. Raspberries continue to look OK. Heat is reducing crop yield. Warm weather causing sunburn in blackberries. Yields have also been reduced. Cole crops bolting due to hot weather. Fresh market corn just started. Corn smut found in one corn field for the first time in many years in Lane County. Hot weather still affecting some crops.

CLACKAMAS: Our summer weather has finally caught up to a normal state. We are into a typical summer drought. Grain and grass seed harvest in full swing. Raspberries and Marionberries about done after a disappointing but extended harvest. Evergreen blackberries coming on. Pasture growth is slow now and about to stop. The grass has lasted at least a month longer than in 2004. Winter wheat ready for harvest. Most grass hay has been put away. Marionberry harvest near complete. Evergreen picking underway. Strawberry fields are being renovated in hopes of a better season next year. Summer vegetable harvest for fresh market and processing is in full swing. Nurseries are doing summer maintenance such as irrigation and repotting. Most livestock are in good condition. Dryland pastures are showing the effects of dry warm weather, some supplemental feeding has begun.

COLUMBIA: Some winter small grains harvested. Haying has been completed.

COOS/CURRY: Hay/haylage production continued this week with good weather. Warm in the mornings and hot and breezy in the afternoons. Brookings: Low temp for the period was 52.9 degrees, 2.65 degrees above the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 70.30 degrees, 2.32 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2001-2004) average of 0.1 inches. Weather year precipitation stands at 74.32 inches, 8.29 inches above the 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004). Historical average (through July) is 70.49 inches precipitation. Bandon: Low temp for the period was 49.54 degrees, 0.18 degrees below the 5-year average. High temp for the period was 70.0 degrees, 2.92 degrees above the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.00 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2001-2004) of less than 0.01 inches.

HOOD RIVER: Routine summer orchard operations continued throughout the Hood River Valley. Growers in the lower valley prepared orchards for summer pear harvest.

JACKSON: Still some haying but most first cutting of grass is now done. Some second cutting of grass in about ready. Grain harvest well underway. Dry hot weather has been good for grain ripening. Pears are showing very good growth but they are needing lots of water. Peach harvest is well underway as are plums. Blueberries are about all done for this year. Wild blackberries are being picked. Roadside stands and u-pick signs for fresh corn are now ready. Lots

of early vegetables ready and at farmers markets and roadside stands. Still lots of irrigating on vegetable crops with the hot dry days. Greenhouses getting ready for fall plants. Nurseries now mostly doing product upkeep. Watering, feeding and weeding. Cattle and other livestock doing well if on good irrigated pastures. Dry ground feed is now mostly used up. It now takes lots of irrigating to keep pasture grasses growing. Still having a very, very hot dry summer. Days continue to be at or in the 100's. Nights are also quite warm in the mid to high 60's. Grain harvest, vegetable harvest, some fruit harvest and lots of watering this week.

JOSEPHINE: Extremely hot and dry weather has created extremely dangerous fire conditions. Everyone busy watering, if they have water. Harvesting of summer squash, corn, tomatoes, blueberries continues. Raspberries are done. The extreme heat affected the length of production for that crop.

MARION: Field crops harvest continues. More reports of vole damage in grass seed fields. High temperatures are increasing the amounts of water on nursery and other irrigated crops. Farmers are harvesting snap beans, grass seed, and wheat. Warm and dry conditions allowed 7 days suitable for field work. Grass seed harvest is moving quickly with baling right behind. Wheat harvest is underway and field peas are being combined. Specialty seed crops are beginning harvest. Soil moisture is becoming short as the hot weather dries it out. Yields in grass seed and wheat have been variable from fair to poor depending on the damper weather conditions during pollination and pest/disease problems in the fields throughout the spring and early summer.

POLK: This last week presented some of the hottest and driest weather of the year. Vegetable crops are looking good. The quality of wheat has been reduced by the weather this year. Multiple grass seed producers have reported reduced yields because of voles. Corn silage growers are concerned about being able to harvest since the planting dates were so late this year.

WASHINGTON: Wheat, oats, and barley being harvested. Beets for seed nearing windrow stage. Red clover setting good blossoms. Field corn growing rapidly. Most second cutting of hay done and waiting for third cutting alfalfa. Blueberries being machine picked. Strawberries continue to produce. Blackberries are ripe. Filberts and walnuts filling. Peaches ripe. Rhubarb picking ongoing. Some tomatoes ripe. Sweet corn tasseled and setting ears. Zucchini and cucumbers at markets. Irrigating new nursery plantings and containers. Livestock stressing some with hot and dry days.

YAMHILL: Another hot week. Reports on grass seed yields has been mixed from average to below average. Almost all are report vole damage. Peaches, blueberries, sweet corn, green beans, tomatoes, squash, blackberries and some marionberries are being harvested. Truck farms and farmers markets are going strong. Lots of irrigation in progress. Walnut growers applied controls for walnut husk fly. Some sprays being applied for filbert worm in hazelnuts. Peach harvest continues.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: A few producers have started harvesting barley and wheat crops. There have been numerous lightning strikes throughout Baker County that have caused a few fires. Livestock producers are reporting extremely dry condition with shortened late summer pasture

CROOK/DESCHUTES/JEFFERSON: Grass seed harvest finishing and straw is being baled. Garlic tops being flamed and or flailed and harvest will begin this week. Winter wheat harvest should be happening soon too. Chickpea fields are starting to dry down. There were some problems with aschoccyta blight in some of the fields. One of the fields that was flood irrigated died off early in the year. The very wet spring probably did not help the chickpea crop this year.

GILLIAM: There were greatly differing reports. Generally, the north end is well below average for all crops, but especially recropped spring commodities. The pasture conditions in the north end are very, very bad. The south end of the county is reporting above average crops except for recropped commodities. Dry conditions and fuel loads make the risk of fire particularly acute. Two harvest equipment related fires destroyed several hundred acres of wheat around Condon on Thursday.

KLAMATH: Second cutting of hay crops continued. Potatoes were 60% flowering and 1% turning. Cows continue to eat grass. Hot weather causing long irrigation sets.

MALHEUR: Clear weather conditions all last week. It was very hot. The spring wheat crop is not yielding as well as expected. Hot weather at the wrong time.

SHERMAN: Harvest continues but is winding down. Wide range of yield from very good to very poor. Topsoil moisture even drier than last week.

UNION: Grass seed harvest complete. Winter wheat harvest underway. Sweet cherry harvest complete. Forest fires in the area are contained. However, smoke from the fires lingers in the atmosphere. Hot and dry weather continues with a chance of dry thunderstorm activity early next week.

WALLOWA: Over one hundred degrees a couple of days, which is unusual here. People are nervous about fires. Grain is turning fast. No significant harvest yet. Hauling water for livestock. Rangeland drying.

WASCO: Good wheat harvest weather continued through the week. The wheat crop is looking good, despite drought conditions through the crop year. Timely rains in April and cool temperatures in June have turned what might have been a poor wheat harvest into a bumper crop for many. Dryland farmers typically produce a crop every other year from a given parcel, with two year's of rainfall needed to produce a single crop of wheat. The annual crop producers have been slightly disappointed with the yield this year. The overall harvest is now 75 percent complete. Rain is needed, however, before fall seeding starts. Alfalfa haying continued all week. Cattle are holding their own on the current pasture conditions. Harvest of the stone fruit crops continued and pears were starting to take on a yellow color.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 7, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)

Station	Air temperature ¹				Growing ² Degree days		Last week precip. ³			Season cum. Precipitation ⁴			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN	Total	DFN	Total Inches	DFN	Days	Total Inches	DFN	Pct. Normal	Days
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	50	81	63	+3	92	+15	0.08	-0.13	1	61.04	-4.17	94	183
Bandon ⁵	50	70	58	-2	57	-6	-	-0.14	-	57.42	-0.60	99	161
Crescent City	51	65	57	-3	50	-13	0.03	-0.11	3	56.19	-8.16	87	134
Florence	40	73	59	-2	65	-7	0.03	-0.18	1	65.37	-9.89	87	167
Tillamook	42	78	59	+0	65	+2	0.04	-0.24	2	73.81	-13.25	85	184
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁵	51	96	71	+5	151	+32	-	-0.14	-	32.02	-8.17	80	160
Corvallis	49	99	72	+6	159	+40	-	-0.14	-	20.52	-21.39	49	120
Detroit Lake ⁵	48	99	73	+10	163	+67	-	-0.21	-	41.63	-24.78	63	115
Eugene	45	97	70	+3	142	+16	-	-0.16	-	26.31	-22.09	54	145
Hillsboro	46	97	69	+4	138	+19	-	-0.18	-	26.56	-10.08	72	157
McMinnville	46	97	71	+5	148	+29	-	-0.11	-	25.03	-17.49	59	158
Portland	56	96	73	+4	161	+27	-	-0.17	-	28.03	-7.30	79	161
Salem	50	96	71	+4	151	+29	-	-0.13	-	26.65	-11.84	69	141
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	54	101	78	+6	196	+39	-	-0.07	-	28.86	-1.72	94	112
Medford	58	102	80	+7	212	+44	-	-0.07	-	17.78	-0.61	97	97
Roseburg	51	98	75	+6	179	+39	-	-0.10	-	28.45	-3.69	89	121
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	48	96	73	+6	162	+43	0.04	-0.10	1	11.36	-2.09	84	95
Echo ⁵	47	102	77	+4	188	+23	-	-0.07	-	5.25	-3.36	61	102
Heppner	51	98	75	+5	178	+38	0.02	-0.10	1	10.73	-2.59	81	106
Hermiston	47	102	77	+4	188	+23	-	-0.07	-	6.03	-2.58	70	66
John Day	50	100	75	+7	180	+47	0.28	0.10	1	12.18	-0.35	97	113
Madras ⁵	45	97	72	+5	157	+31	-	-0.07	-	9.38	-0.55	94	110
Moro	47	97	73	+5	160	+27	-	-0.07	-	8.76	-1.94	82	96
Parkdale ⁵	43	96	68	-1	125	-1	-	-0.07	-	20.41	-9.86	67	139
Pendleton	47	100	77	+4	190	+22	-	-0.07	-	8.80	-2.75	76	94
The Dalles	55	102	77	+10	192	+68	-	-0.07	-	9.19	-2.87	76	91
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁵	51	95	72	+8	154	+56	-	-0.14	-	13.39	-2.19	86	86
Bend	42	95	70	+6	139	+41	-	-0.10	-	12.43	1.23	111	80
Burns	43	99	73	+8	166	+51	-	-0.14	-	12.62	3.20	134	99
Christmas Valley ⁵	39	98	70	+2	141	+8	-	-0.12	-	10.36	-1.52	87	92
Klamath Falls	49	93	71	+4	148	+22	-	-0.14	-	11.43	-1.57	88	83
Klamath Falls ⁵	52	93	71	+4	152	+26	-	-0.14	-	10.69	-2.31	82	116
Lakeview	48	97	71	+5	151	+32	-	-0.07	-	7.90	-7.23	52	65
Lorella ⁵	44	96	70	+3	145	+19	-	-0.14	-	12.72	-0.28	98	126
Redmond	38	98	71	+4	146	+28	0.09	0.01	1	9.85	1.77	122	87
Worden ⁵	43	94	68	-1	128	+2	0.05	-0.09	3	10.70	-2.30	82	102
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	38	98	69	+3	137	+12	0.52	0.33	1	10.86	0.77	108	94
Joseph	46	97	72	+11	155	+76	0.16	-0.05	1	18.42	-5.48	77	129
La Grande	39	100	73	+4	166	+23	0.01	-0.17	1	12.00	-4.66	72	96
Prairie City ⁵	41	96	70	+9	141	+64	-	-0.18	-	13.45	-6.58	67	90
Union	43	99	73	+5	160	+34	0.04	-0.11	2	14.54	1.59	112	109
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	54	104	79	+3	204	+19	-	-0.07	-	7.73	-1.56	83	61
Rome	50	102	76	+4	182	+27	0.02	-0.05	1	8.04	0.20	103	74

¹ Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. ² Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. ³ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁴ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. ⁵ Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.
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